



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Norihiko FUCHIGAMI et al.

Serial No. 10/721,217

Art Unit: 2626

Filed: November 26, 2003

Examiner: Abebe, Daniel Demelash

For: AUDIO SIGNAL
PROCESSING APPARATUS

Atty Docket: 0102/0232

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following is a response to the Office Action dated October 6, 2006 in which pending claims 13-16 were rejected under obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over respective claims 1-4 of U.S. patents 7,085,713 and 7,092,889.

To obviate the above noted rejection, submitted with this response is a Terminal Disclaimer.

For the record, the two references cited in the Office Action (US 6,760,448 and US 6,934,677) are not valid prior art references against the instant application insofar as the earliest filing date of the '448 patent was February 5, 1999 and the '677 patent was December 14, 2001, whereas the instant application claims priority from a Japanese application that was filed on October 13, 1998.

Inasmuch as it is believed that no other issues are outstanding in this application, the examiner is respectfully requested to pass this case to allowance at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,


Louis Woo, Reg. No. 31,730
Law Offices of Louis Woo
717 North Fayette Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Phone: (703) 299-4090

Date: Nov 20, 2006